

# West Lafayette Parks & Recreation Department

## Staff Management Report

### Monday, May 16, 2016

#### 1. Pennie Ainsworth, Assistant Superintendent's Report

- ✓ Coed and Men's Softball League started on Monday, May 9. Only a few games have had to be rescheduled due to the weather. The Softball program continues to be a popular summer activity with 32 teams in the Coed league and 12 teams in the men's league. League meetings were held with team captains to resolve any schedule conflicts. New umpires were trained and have begun working the games.
- ✓ The Kiwanis Community Build playground was held on April 28 and 29. Installation Unlimited arrived on Thursday by 8:30am to begin site preparation. Staff assisted with installing the foundation polls for the play structure. The Installation Unlimited staff decided to excavate the site for free. The excavation work saved several man hours of work for the Parks & Recreation Staff. Kiwanis members showed up in force to help with the installation. The Playground structure was completely installed by Friday at 5 pm. The Kiwanis have help provide much needed play equipment at Cumberland Park.
- ✓ Sidewalks will be added around the new play equipment area. Pour Boys Concrete will begin sidewalk installation as soon as the weather cooperates. The Kiwanis are working to raise additional funds so two pieces to be added to the playground area. **Planned dedication for the playground is June 20, @ 5:30 pm**
- ✓ I've attended the City's ADA committee meeting, WALLA board meeting, the opening of the Farmers Market and a workshop on nature designed playgrounds which was held in Fort Wayne.
- ✓ Global Fest update: The Mayor has raised \$12,500 for the 2016 Global Fest, which will be held on September 17 this year.

#### 2. Chris Foley, Recreation Director's Report:

- ✓ Registration for summer programs has begun. Some Swim lessons for the little ones have filled as well as some tennis lessons.
- ✓ The seasonal staff has been hired for the summer.
- ✓ Pool staff have been making the final preparations for pool opening. The pool staff has completed two in-service training sessions.
- ✓ The Splash Bash official opening of the summer pool season will be on Thursday, May 26 at 1:00 pm. Admission is \$1.00 for the 1-4:50 pm public swim session.
- ✓ Regular public swim hours are 1:00-4:50pm and 6:00-7:50pm. Admission is \$4.00 for ages 16 & older and \$3.50 for ages 5-15.
- ✓ Adult Lap swim will begin on May 26. Lap swimming is available from Noon-12:50 and 5-5:50 pm. Admission for Adult Lap swim is \$3.50

#### 3. Bess Witcosky, Morton Center Director:

- ✓ The Mor'Danc'n Recital was held on Saturday, April 30<sup>th</sup> from 4p-5:30p at the Loeb Playhouse. Just over 650 people attended.
- ✓ Construction began May 12<sup>th</sup> on the Southeast lawn at Morton to prep for a rain garden. The rain garden will be plotted and planted on May 18<sup>th</sup>. We are still looking for volunteers to come help with the planting on May 18<sup>th</sup> at 5pm. Gloves and trowels will be provided. This rain garden is made possible through the efforts of the Boiler Green Initiative and funding from the Wabash River Enhancement Corporation and Purdue University.
- ✓ Morton will host the Minnetrista Theatre Preserve from Muncie, IN as they help kick off the West Lafayette Public Library's Summer Reading Program. Minnetrista will perform **My Plate the Musical**. The show will be held on June 4<sup>th</sup> at 2pm in Morton's Multi Purpose Room. The show is free and open to the public.

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#### 4. Jon Munn, Parks Director Report:

- ✓ Installed new water fountain and added ADA required concrete around new fountain at Tommy Johnson Park.
- ✓ Delivered and installed new mulch for the entire park at Tommy Johnson
- ✓ Assisted with the planning and materials coordination for the installation of the Kiwanas Community Playground equipment. Work continues on the sidewalk and drainage installation.
- ✓ Cleaned up parks garage for use during election voting location
- ✓ Work continues the pool in preparation for upcoming season
- ✓ \*Delivered mulch and created new planting bed at the Tapawingo Park public art sculpture in preparation for the Rotary club community park spruce up event
- ✓ Helped Gale Payne dig and pour the footings for the new overlook on the bog
- ✓ Completed the boardwalk repair from tree damage at the Lilly Nature center
- ✓ All softball fields have been prepped for the season
- ✓ Excavation of the Morton Center rain garden is underway
- ✓ Removed damaged sections of fencing along the trail between Lindberg and Cherry Lane
- ✓ Pressure washed the entire Fountain Plaza at Tapawingo Park in preparation for Purdue Graduation
- ✓ Preparation for the farmers market grounds and equipment is complete for the season
- ✓ I have hired two seasonal maintenance/mowing staff that will start on Monday 5-16 and Monday May-23
- ✓ Monthly Trail and Playground inspections have been completed and are on file at the parks office and available at Park Board meeting.

#### 5. Dan Dunten, Stewardship Director's Report

- ✓ Spoke to the residents of University Place on the Nature Area and volunteerism.
- ✓ Coordinated a booth for the Leadership Lafayette Volunteer Expo and talked with several individuals.
- ✓ Served on the planning committee for the WREC "Paint The Rain" rain barrel painting and emceed the judging event.
- ✓ Helped coordinate the West Lafayette Arbor Day tree planting event and served as the city's representative to the county-wide Earth Day tree planting at the courthouse.
- ✓ Served on the planning committee for the DeTrash The Wabash and helped get the event set up and running.
- ✓ Hired summer seasonal workers
- ✓ Planted 20 flats of flowers around the various Parks properties
- ✓ Assisted with the Conservation Field Day for elementary students.

#### 6. Janet Fawley, Park Superintendent's Report:

- ✓ 4/18 & 19 - Public Spaces Meetings with Kara Salazar & Michael Wilcox re Master Plan Survey report
- ✓ 4/19 & 20 - site visits, and group interviews with Ryan Cambridge re Master Plan
- ✓ Work has begun on 2017 budget.
- ✓ 5/4: Staff participated in the Visitor Center Tailgate Party.
- ✓ 5/5: Helped to produce the Volunteer Expo through Leadership Lafayette
- ✓ Attended WREC's North Reach Schematic Design & Engineering Update
- ✓ 5/7: Worked with Lafayette Rotary Clubs service project at Tapawingo, and dedicate Tommy Johnston drinking fountain. Also installed Little Free Library at Tapawingo, and constructed 2<sup>nd</sup> LFL for Farmer's Market.

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- ✓ Mt w/ Kevin Hall from Parsons Brinkerhoff re: Happy Hollow Ravine Footpath Repair, and Happy Hollow Park Entrance post construction.
- ✓ 5/11-Attended workshop in Fort Wayne on Nature Grounds- Best Practices for Creating Naturalized Playgrounds & Outdoor Fitness Parks -Best Practices for Promoting Community Health by Increasing Physical Activity.
- ✓ 5/12 - I "graduated" from Leadership Lafayette, Class of 45. (Woo Hoo!!!)